86

A

E

SAUDI ARABIA.

1942

89

E 5064
27 AUG 1942

Registry Number: E 5064/1/25

FROM Swiss Legation Special Division.

No. It.1.C./390

Dated 17th Aug. 1942

Received in Registry 27th Aug. 1942.

E: Saudi Arabia

Departure of Italian Legation from Jedda; articles confiscated by Syrian customs officials.

Refers to ~~Italian~~ Swiss note It.1.C./331 of 4th August (E 4614/1/25). Transmits copy of Italian note No.2025 of 24th July enclosing lists of confiscated property. States that on 26th February, Syrian officials and Australian soldiers conducted a meticulous examination of the baggage belonging to the personnel of the Italian Legation at Jedda and detained therefrom a case of documents and various personal possessions. Points out that the Italian Legation was travelling under a British safe-conduct and requests the Federal Political Department to move their representative in Syria in order that necessary measures to secure the return of the property may be taken.

Last Paper.

E 4978

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

9) Beirut No.56 September 1st

No 16, Beirut. Nov 3.

(Action completed.) a/w. m.m.g. 7/10 1/9

(Index.) 20/9

Next Paper.

E 5255

(Minutes.)

Copy of this note and of the translations of the Enclosures should go to Beirut ref.

29/8

B.M. 30 Oct. (initialled) H.M.E. 1/10.

Usual reminder.

31/10

See E 6648

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

40

E 5064

27 AUG 1942

It.l.C./390

The Swiss Legation, Special Division for Safeguarding Italian Interests, present their compliments to His Majesty's Foreign Office and, in confirmation of their note No. It.l.C./331 of 4th August, 1942, which was acknowledged by the Foreign Office note No. E 4614/1/25 of 7th August, 1942, relative to the departure of the Italian Legation from Jedda, have the honour to transmit herewith

./. copy of a note No. 2025 of 24th July, 1942, which has been addressed to the Swiss Government by the Italian Government, being the full text of the communication upon which the Special Division's note above referred to was based. There

./. are also enclosed certain lists of confiscated property, as enumerated in the Italian Government's note in question.

The Special Division have been instructed to bring this communication and its enclosures to the notice of His Majesty's Foreign Office, for their consideration, and will be glad to transmit the latter's reply to the Swiss Government, for the information of the Italian Government.

Enclosures.

SWISS LEGATION, SPECIAL DIVISION,
Duke of York Steps, S.W. 1.

17th August, 1942.

Translation.

No. 2025.

The Italian Legation have the honour to inform the Federal Political Department (Foreign Interests Division)that in consequence of the suspension of diplomatic relations between Italy and Saudi Arabia, the staff has returned to Rome via Iraq, Syria and Turkey.

Signor Sillitti, the Minister, has informed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that at the frontier station of Meydan Ekbez, between Syria and Turkey, on February 26 last, Syrian officials and Australian soldiers, attached to a British unit bearing the monogram B.S.M., conducted a meticulous examination of the baggage belonging to the personnel of the Italian Legation of Jedda and detained therefrom in some cases not in the presence of the interested officials a small case containing documents (annex 1) and various personal possessions belonging to ~~the~~ Signor Sillitti (annex~~2 II~~), to the Secretary of the Legation, Dr.Marcello Mochi (annex 3), to the Chancellor, Signor Michele Pastacaldi (annex 4), to the local employees Raffaele Conti (annex 5) and Flavio de Feo (annex 6).

It may be observed that, as regards the case of documents, the frontier authorities gave an assurance that it would be returned after the examination, and as regards the personal possessions, the aforesaid authorities had no right whatever to abstract articles or to retain them.

It should be pointed out that the staff of the Italian Legation at Jedda was travelling under a British safe-conduct issued by the British Legation at Jedda, under which the personal safety of the members of the Italian Legation of Jedda, as well as of their luggage was guaranteed.

The Italian Legation have therefore the honour to request the Federal Political Department (Foreign Interests Division) kindly to move their representative in Syria in order that the necessary measures may be taken with the competent authorities to secure the return of the articles referred to above.

While awaiting an acknowledgment in the matter, the Italian Legation avail etc.

Berne,
June 24, 1942.

Annex 1.

List of the documents contained in the small case belonging to the Italian Legation at Jedda - seized by the Syrian frontier authorities at the railway station of Meydan Ekbez.

Private Register, 1942.

No. 1 Private missing.
2 " "
3 " chancery expenses, 4th quarter.
4 " postal expenses.
5 " Expenses for civilians.
6 " Press.
7 " Expenses interned sailors.
8 " Certificate of death, Maras-co.

Ordinary Register, 1942.

No. 1 Salary of Arab employee Mohamed Abbas Raies.
2/1 p.c - idem - foreign.
3/2 Dispensary accounts 4th quarter 1941.
4/3 Maintenance accounts - idem
5/4 Hospitality - idem
6 p.c African Ministry - idem
7/5 accounts - idem
8/6 Consular stamps - idem
9/7 Passport accounts - idem
10/8 Germans, expenses

Private Register, 1941. XIX

No. 70 Private Gavazzi-Caisutti incident.
71 " Collections Dr. Passera.
72 " Malaria Mission, Sanaa.
73 " Germans, Sanaa.
74 " Married couples interned, Sanaa.
75 " Libyan Muktar fees.
76 " missing.
77 " Message, Ibn Saud.
78 " missing.
79 " cancelled.
80 " Loan 1000 T M T to S.C.I. Dr.Passera.
81 " missing.
82 " missing.
83 " Compatriots Canova and Tucci.

Ordinary Register, 1941 XIX.

No. 417/157 Ordinary maintenance accounts, 3rd Quarter 1941.
418/158 Dispensary accounts, 3rd Quarter 1941.
419/159 Press reports.
421/160 - idem -
426/161 Hospitality accounts, 3rd Quarter 1941.
428/162 "I - ETIO" funds.
429/163 Press.
436/164 Sanaa lists.
437/165 Press (report)
445/166 Press.
451/168 Decoration Hag Mohamed Biddoho.
/169 missing.
453/170 Press.
458/171 - idem -
/172 missing.
459/173 Press.
473/174 - idem -
478/175 - idem -
484/176 -idem -

One small bundle of letters from Commandant Gasparini addressed to the Ministry of Marine (Staff office and bearing the number 49/R)
- idem No. 17 R.P.
- idem No. 46 R.P.

One small bundle of letters with enclosure from Doctor Passera, bearing the number 159/D/5.
Lists of transmissions from Sanaa, Nos. 3-4-5-6.
" " " to Sanaa, " 5-6-7-8.
Note of office expenses from January 1 to February 6, 1942.
One list of books belonging to the Legation, lent to interned Italians for reading.
File relating to the office funds.
File " " " " expenses.
Minutes of keys of safes and cupboards.
Minutes of burning of cypher material.
" " " " out-of-date passports.
" " " " current passport forms.
" " " " consular stamps.
" " " " auction sale of Fiat car.
Pencilled list of various material burned.
Agreement with proprietor of premises of the Italian Dispensary, concerning the reduction in the ground rent.
Two (?) of Signor Ferrari Naborre.
One (?) of Signor Michele Irrera.

Annex 2.

List of articles belonging to the Minister Sillitti seized by the Syrian frontier authorities at the railway station of Meydan Ekbez.

---

1 hat
1 fountain pen
of the total value of 400 lire.

Annex 3.

List of articles belonging to Dr. Marcello Moche, which were seized by the frontier authorities at the railway station of Meydan Ekbez.

---

(1) Leica III b Standard camera, value 3000 lire.
(2) Robot camera, value 2400 lire.
(3) Phillips' Battery Wireless Set, 9 valves (value 3200 lire).
(4) Beretta revolver, calibre 6.35, with ammunition (value 200 lire).

This Ministry hold the receipts given to Dr. Mochi by the Syrian frontier authorities at the time of seizure.

Annex 4.

List of articles belonging to Cavaliere Michele Pastacaldi, seized by the Syrian frontier authorities at the railway station of Meydan Ekbez.

Camera with Zeiss lens (valuel,200 lire).
Arab (?burnous) of wool (value 500 lire).
One pair of bed-sheets (value 300 lire).

Annex 5.

List of articles belonging to Signor Raffaele Conti, seized by the Syrian frontier authorities at the railway station of Meydan Ekbez.

8 bed-sheets (value 800 lire).
1 woollen coverlet (value 300 lire).
1 Saudi dagger (value 240 lire).
2 ladies' hats (value 100 lire).
3 metres of men's woollen suit material (value 450 lire).

Annex 6.

List of articles belonging to Signor Flavio de Feo, seized by the Syrian frontier authorities at the railway station of Meydan Ekbez.

1 Noviflex camera (Rolley-flex type), new, with leather case, 12 exposures, 1,29 Mayer lens, exposure to 1/1000th of a second (value 2000 lire).

45

Copia KJ

No. 2025.

La R. Legazione d'Italia ha l'onore di portare a conoscenza dell'Alto Dipartimento Politico Federale (Divisione Interessi Stranieri) che il personale della R. Legazione d'Italia a Gedda, in seguito alla sospensione dei rapporti diplomatici fra l'Italia e la Saudia, è rientrato a Roma Via Irak-Siria-Turchia.

Il R. Ministro Sillitti ha riferito al R. Ministero degli Affari Esteri che alla stazione di Frontiera fra la Siria e la Turchia, Meydan Ekbez, il 26 Febbraio u.s. agenti siriani e militari australiani dipendenti da un servizio inglese indicato con la sigla B.S.M. procedettero ad una meticolosa visita del bagaglio del personale della R. Legazione a Gedda asportandone in qualche caso non alla presenza dei funzionari interessati- una cassetta contenente documenti (All. I) e vari oggetti personali di proprietà del R. Ministro Sillitti (All.2) del Segretario della R. Legazione Dr. Marcello Mochi, (All.3) del Cancelliere Michele Pastacaldi (All. 4) degli impiegati locali Raffaele Conti (All. 5) e Flavio De Feo (All. 6)

Viene osservato che, per quanto riguarda la cassetta di documenti, le stesse autorità di frontiera ne avevano assicurata la restituzione dopo esame; e, per quanto riguarda gli oggetti personali, le predette autorità non avevano alcun diritto di prelevarli e trattenerli.

E' inoltre da tener presente che il personale della R. Legazione a Gedda viaggiava con un salvacondotto inglese, rilasciato dalla Legazione britannica a Gedda, con il quale si garantiva la sicurezza personale dei membri della R. Legazione a Gedda, nonchè dei loro bagagli.

La R. Legazione d'Italia ha pertanto l'onore di pregare l'Alto Dipartimento Politico Federale (Divisione Interessi Stranieri) di voler cortesemente interessare la propria rappresentanza in Siria affinchè svolga presso le competenti autorità i passi necessari per ottenere la restituzione degli oggetti di cui sopra.

./.

La R. Legazione d'Italia, mentre resta in attesa di un cortese cenno di assicurazione al riguardo, si vale dell'occasione per rinnovare all'Alto Dipartimento Politico Federale, i sensi della sua alta considerazione e vivamente ringrazia.

Berna, 24 Luglio 1942-XX

Elenco dei documenti contenuti nella cassetta, appartenente alla R. Legazione a Gedda, sequestrata dalle Autorità di frontiera siriana alla stazione ferroviaria di Meydan Ekbez -

Protocollo riservato anno 1942:

Prot.	n.1.	Ris.	(manca l'oggetto)
"	n.2	"	(" ")
"	n.3	"	(Spese cancelleria 4° trimestre)
"	n.4	"	(Spese corriere)
"	n.5	"	(Spese per i civili)
"	n.6	"	(Stampa)
"	n.7.	"	(Spese marinai internati)
"	n.8	"	(Certificato morte Marasco)

Protocollo ordinario 1942 XX:

Prot.	n.1		Impiegato arabo Mohamed Abbas Raies (Stipendio)
"	n.2/1	p.c.	a Esteri - idem idem
"	n.3/2		Contabilità ambulatorio 4° trimestre 1941
"	n.4/3		Contab. manutenzione 4° trimestre 1941
"	n.5/4		Ospizi 4° trimestre 1941
"	n.6	p.c.	Ministero Africa idem idem
"	n.7/5		Contabilità 4° trimestre 1941
"	n.8/6		Marche consolari 4° trimestre 1941
"	n.9/7		Contabilità passaporti 4° trimestre 1941
"	n.10/8		Spese tedeschi

Protocollo riservato anno 1941 XIX:

Prot.	n.70	Ris.	Incidente Gavazzi-Caisutti
"	n.71	"	Deleghe riscossioni Dr. Passera
"	n.72	"	Malaria Missione Sanaa
"	n.73	"	Tedeschi Sanaa
"	n.74	"	Congiunti internati Sanaa
"	n.75	"	Competenze libico Muktar
"	n.76	"	(Manca l'oggetto)
"	n.77	"	Messaggio Ibn Saud
"	n.78	"	(manca l'oggetto)
"	n.79	"	Annullato
"	n.80	"	Prestito 1000 T.M.T. alla S.C.I. Dr.Passera
"	n.81	"	(manca l'oggetto)
"	n.82	"	(manca l'oggetto)
"	n.83	"	Connazionali Canova e Tucci

Protocollo ordinario 1941 XIX:

Prot.	n.417/157	Con.ordinaria manutenzione 3° trimestre 1941
"	n.418/158	Cont.Ambulatorio 3°trimestre 1941
"	n.419/159	Resoconto stampa
"	n.421/160	Resoconto stampa
"	n.426/161	Contabilità Ospizi 3° trimestre 1941
"	n.428/162	Fondi "I - ETIO"
"	n.429/163	Stampa
"	n.436/164	Elenchi Sanaa
"	n.437/165	Stampa (resoconto)
"	n.445/166	Stampa
"	n.451/168	Onorificenza Hag Mohamed Biddoho
"	n. /169	(manca l'oggetto)
"	n.453/170	Stampa

./.

48

Prot.	n.458/171	Stampa
"	n. /172	(manca l'oggetto)
"	n.459/173	Stampa
"	n.473/174	Stampa
"	n.478/175	Stampa
"	n.484/176	Stampa

1 plico del Comandante Gasparini diretto al Ministero della Marina (Ufficio Personale e portante il n.49/R).
idem idem n.17 R.P.
idem idem n.46 R.P.
1 plico con allegato del Dott. Passera portante il n.159/D/5.
Elenchi di trasmissione da Sanaa portanti i numeri 3 - 4 - 5 - 6.
Elenchi di trasmissione per Sanaa portanti i numeri 5 - 6 - 7 - 8.
Nota, delle spese d'Ufficio sostenute dal 1° Gennaio al 6 Febbraio 1942.
1 elenco di libri della R. Legazione dati in lettura agli internati italiani.
Fascicolo relativo ai fondi d'ufficio.
idem relativo spese d'ufficio.
Verbale delle chiavi delle casseforti e degli armadi Parma.
idem incenerimento materiale crittografico.
idem idem passaporti fuori uso.
Verbale incenerimento moduli passaporti in uso.
idem idem marche consolari.
idem vendita all'asta automobile Fiat.
Elenco a matita del materiale vario incenerito
Accordo col proprietario della sede dell'Ambulatorio italiano concernente la riduzione del canone di fitto.
2 deleghe del Signor Naborre Ferrari
1 delega del Signor Irrera Michele.-

(All. 2.)

49

Elenco degli oggetti sequestrati dalle Autorità di frontiera siriane alla stazione ferroviaria di Meydan Ekbez al R.Ministro Sillitti:

1 cappello

1 penna stilografica

dal valore complessivo di lire 400

(All. 3) 50

Elenco degli oggetti sequestrati dalle Autorità di frontiera siriane alla stazione ferroviaria di Meydan Ekbez al Dr. Marcello Mochi -

1) Macchina fotografica "Leica" IIIb Standard (Valore L.3000)

2) Una macchina fotografica "Robot" (valore L.2400)

3) Un apparecchio radio "Philips" a 9 valvole a batteria (valore L.3200)

4) Una rivoltella "Beretta" cal.6.35 con munizioni (valore L.200).

Questo R. Ministero è in possesso delle ricevute rilasciate dalle autorità di frontiera siriane al Dr. Mochi al momento del sequestro. -

Elenco degli oggetti sequestrati dalle Autorità di frontiera siriane alla stazione ferroviaria di Meydan Ekbez al Cav. Michele Pastacaldi:

Una macchina fotografica con obiettivo "Zeiss" (valore L.1.200)

Un barracano arabo di lana (valore L.500)

Un paio di lenzuola (valore L.300)

Elenco degli oggetti sequestrati dalle Autorità di frontiera siriane alla stazione ferroviaria di Meydan Ekbez al Signor Raffaele Conti:

8 Lenzuola (valore L.800)

1 coperta di lana (valore L.300)

1 pugnale saudiano (valore L.240)

2 cappelli da donna (valore L.100)

3 metri di stoffa di lana per abito da uomo (valore L.450)

953

Elenco degli oggetti sequestrati dalle autorità di frontiera siriane alla stazione ferroviaria di Meydan Ekbez al Si.Flavio de Feo

1 apparecchio fotografico marca "Noviflex" (del tipo "Rolley-flex" nuovo con astuccio di cuoio, 12 prese, obiettivo 1 : 2,9 della Mayer, a scatto a tendina sino ad 1/1000 di secondo (valore L.2.000

1008

File Number:—

E 1

EASTERN.

SAUDI ARABIA.

1942

Departure of Italian Legation from Jedda; Articles Confiscated by Syrian Customs Officials. June 24-August 17, 1942. TS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 FO_371_25240_E5064. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, link.gale.com/apps/doc/COAJOQ077696405/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=3869b5f1&pg=4. Accessed 22 Feb. 2022.

87

E

1942

SAUDI ARABIA.

E 5253

6 SEP 1942

54

Registry Number } E 5253/1/25

TELEGRAM FROM

Mr. Stonehewer

No. Bird (Jedda) 294.

Dated 5th Sept.,1942.

Received in Registry } 6th Sept., 1942.

E: Saudi Arabia.

Fighting French Representative at Jedda; M. Maigret.

Refers to Foreign Office telegram No. 147 of 19th May (E 3116/1/25). M. Maigret arrived on 1st September to take up appointment as semi-official representative of Fighting French. He has approached Yusuf Yasin about diplomatic privileges and latter has asked His Majesty's Minister's advice. M. Maigret wishes to enjoy customs immunities, bag and cypher facilities. Has replied that if Ibn Saud wishes to accord to M. Maigret those privileges he enjoyed as French Minister, there is no harm, but if it is a question of granting privileges to a Fighting French Representative. H.M.G. must be consulted. Would be grateful for instructions. Repeated Minister of State 187, Beirut 16.

Last Paper.

E 5064

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Copied to Mr Armstrong (W.O.) & Lt Col French (W.O.)

Tel) Jedda No 228 Sept. 12th

repeated: M/State, Cairo No 86 Saving

Beirut No 9 Saving

(Action completed.)

M.M. 9. 14/9

(Index.)

Dot 16/9

Next Paper.

E 5535/1

(E 7301/1)

(Minutes.)

W.B. Young 7/9

French Dept
Treaty
Mr Laboucheres
} for obs. please.

No neutral State, so far as I know, grants diplomatic privileges to F.F. representatives. HMGs in the U.K. & The Dominions, & the U.S. Govt. & the Soviet Govt. grant them cypher facilities & , I think, bag facilities.

Semi FF. officials in London enjoy Customs privileges on the same scale as members of Allied Govts., but I have not heard of such privileges being granted to the representatives of the Nat. Ctee. abroad. They are not diplomatic / representatives

22910 9/41 F.O.P.

55 representatives & are entitled to no privileges.

I think that M. Strachey-Burdine is the best one & that we shd. encourage Yusuf Yasin to give M. Margiet all the ~~favours~~ privileges he wants as a personal favour & not as a right.

R.L. Speaight
8/9.

I agree with Mr Speaight. It should be simple enough for the Saudi Govt. to grant M. Margiet personal privileges on the diplomatic scale without recognising that he possesses any diplomatic status.

9/9

So do I.
9/9
9/9 Mr. Hall to Tell.
17/IX.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

E 5253
6 SEP 1942

56

[CYPHER] DEPARTMENTAL No.2.

FROM JEDDA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Stonehewer-Bird.
No. 294.
5th September, 1942.

D. 1.30 p.m. 5th September, 1942.
R. 3.45 p.m. 5th September, 1942.

Repeated to Minister of State No. 187,
Beirut No. 16.
(Foreign Office please pass)

999999999999

IMPORTANT

Your telegram No. 147 May 19th. E 3116/1725

M. Maigret arrived on September 1st to take up appointment as semi-official representative of Fighting French.

2. He has approached Yusuf Yasin about diplomatic privileges; latter on Ibn Saud's instructions has asked my advice. M. M. wishes to enjoy customs [grp. undec.] and bag and cypher facilities.

3. I have replied that in my personal opinion if His Majesty wishes to continue personally to M. privileges which he enjoyed in the past when French Minister, I could see no harm, but that if it is a question of granting full diplomatic privileges to semi-official representative of Fighting French I must ask your views as I cannot on my own responsibility offer advice which on the one hand might result in setting an embarrassing precedent or on the other hand in Ibn Saud's not granting facilities granted in other countries where there are Fighting French representatives.

4. I should be grateful for your instructions.

[Repeated to Minister of State Cairo No. 2069 and Beirut No. 407.]

[Copies sent to Mr. Armstrong & Colonel French].

O.T.P.

SEP 1942
F.O. REGISTRY

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. E. 5253/1/25

Draft. Telegram

H.M. Minister,
Tedda.

No. 228

Cypher. K/OTP

Sept 12

Robert Nuntaki, Cairo. 86 Saving
Beirut. Saving

Dept. No. 1.

French Dept. 14/9
Treaty Dept. R.J. 15/9
H.A. 15/IX

6-35

Rec'd 10.15 am 13/9/25

O.I.R. 13/9

OUT FILE

Your telegram No. 294 [of Sept. 5th; diplomatic privileges for Free French representatives at Tedda] 57

Free French representatives are not diplomatic representatives and are not entitled to any privileges as of right. But they are in practice allowed either and big facilities by H.M.G. and other Allied Govts. and in this country senior F.F. officials enjoy customs privileges on the same scale as members of Allied Govts. There is therefore no reason why [the Sand should not grant personally to M[aigret]] ~~to a former but not as to right, such privileges as to regime~~ privileges on the

58 the diplomatic scale without recognising that he possesses any diplomatic status.

HA Cmlk.

[Copies sent Mr Armstrong]

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

59

OUT FILE

E.5253/1/25.

[Cypher]. DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO JEDDA.

No. 228. D. 6.15 a.m. 13th September, 1942.

12th September, 1942.

Repeated to Minister of State, Cairo No. 86 Saving.
Beirut No. 9 Saving.

////

Your telegram No. 294 [of September 5th: diplomatic privileges for Free French representative at Jedda].

Free French representatives are not diplomatic representatives and are not entitled to any privileges as of right. But they are in practice allowed cypher and bag facilities by His Majesty's Government and other Allied Governments and in this country senior F.F. officials enjoy customs privileges on the same scale as members of Allied Governments. There is therefore no reason why Ibn Saud should not grant personally to M[aigret] privileges on the diplomatic scale without recognising that he possesses any diplomatic status.

[Copies sent to Mr. Armstrong].

O.T.P.

File Number :—

E 1.

EASTERN.

SAUDI ARABIA.

1942

Fighting French Representative at Jedda; M. Maigret. September 5-13, 1942. MS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 FO_371_25240_E5253. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, link.gale.com/apps/doc/DWLZTV298232972/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=21b3d099&pg=1. Accessed 22 Feb. 2022.

EASTERN

F.O.
371

1942

SAUDI ARABIA

FILE Nº 1

pps. 4338 – 7449 (END)

CLOSED
UNTIL
1972

31447

76

E

1942

SAUDI ARABIA.

E 4338 2

23 JUL 1942

Registry Number E 4338/1/25.

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Stonehewer Bird,
Jedda.

No. 234
238.

Dated 21st July, 1942.

Received in Registry 23rd July, 1942.

E: Saudi-Arabia.

Repatriation of Italian refugees.

No. 234. Text of telegram 149 of 21st July to Minister of State and Forsca reporting that party is expected to leave evening 21st July. Saudi-Arabian Minister for Foreign Affairs urgently requests that warship should remain out of sight of Jedda as otherwise further delay may be caused. Requests that necessary instructions be signalled to His Majesty's ~~Government~~ Ship. No. 238 text of telegram No. 152 of Minister of State and 1845 Forsca Suez of 21st July reporting that party of 14 Italians left 21st July in three sailing boats. Remainder (21) will leave in two sailing boats and one launch night of 21st July or 22nd July.

Last Paper.

E 4271

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

By Mr. Waldock
ads
24 Jul

31447

(Action completed.)
ESD 24/7

(Index.)
DD 25/7

Next Paper.

E 4377

(Minutes.)

Sent to Armstrong.

Copy to Waldock ADS

HA 23/7

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

(CYPHER) DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM JEDDA TO MINISTER OF STATE CAIRO, AND FORSCA.

Mr. Stonehewer-Bird, D. 1.0.p.m. July 21st, 1942.
No. 149. R. 1.0.a.m. July 22nd, 1942.
July 21st, 1942.

Repeated to FOREIGN OFFICE NO. 234.

E 4338
JUL 1942

------oOo------

Departure of Italian refugees.

Party is expected to leave this evening but as warship was sighted by them this morning off Jedda harbour, they may postpone departure till dark.

Saudi-Arabian Minister for Foreign Affairs urgently requests that warship should remain out of sight of Jedda as otherwise further delay may be caused.

I should be grateful if you will have necessary instructions signalled to His Majesty's ship.

1015 Z/31

[Copies sent to Mr. Armstrong].

23 JUL 1942
F.O. REGISTRY

[Cypher] DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

4

FROM JEDDA TO MINISTER OF STATE CAIRO NO. 152
FORSCA SUEZ NO.1845

Mr. Stonehewer-Bird
21st July, 1942.

D. 9.45 p.m. 21st July, 1942.
R. 7.15 a.m. 22nd July, 1942.

Repeated to FOREIGN OFFICE NO. 238

dddddddd

E 4338
26 JUL 1942

Departure of Italian refugees.

My telegram No. 149, 21st July.

Party of 14 Italians left to-day at 1600 G.M.T. in three sailing boats. Remainder (21) will leave in two sailing boats and one launch to-night or to-morrow.

[Copies sent to Mr. Armstrong]

23 JUL 1942
F.O. REGISTRY

File Number :—

E 1

EASTERN.

SAUDI ARABIA.

1942

Repatriation of Italian Refugees. 21 July 1942. TS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 FO_371_31447_E4338. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, link.gale.com/apps/doc/ESSVXM971339368/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=2e5960df&pg=1. Accessed 22 Feb. 2022.

77

E

1942

SAUDI ARABIA.

E 4377
23 JUL 1942

Registry Number E 4377/1/25

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Stonehewer Bird
Jedda.

No. 239

Dated 22nd July, 1942

Received in Registry 23rd July, 1942

E: Saudi Arabia

Repatriation of Italian refugees.

Text of telegram No. 153 of 22nd July to Minister of State Cairo and Forca reporting that the three boats which left on 21st July proceeded westward until out of sight. Remainder will leave two hours before sunset 22nd July.

Last Paper.

E 4338

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) Mr Baldock (PRO) July 27th.

(Minutes.)

pp secret.
Sent Mr Armstrong.

(Copy sent to Mr. Waldock, Adm.)

I hope they are caught.

25/7

25/7

See within Admiralty Tel No. 1226A/16 of 16th August & F.O.R.S.E.A.

Await reply.

19/8

See within Tel No. 1011C/19 of 19th August from F.O.R.S.E.A. to Admty.

This is not a very large bag. Let us hope that the unlocated 14 have been fed to the sharks.

3/9

Now see E 6825/398/91

Sept 3

(Action completed.) 4/9 27/7

(Index.) 7/9

Next Paper.

E 4379

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

E

6

[CYPHER] DEPARTMENTAL No.2.

FROM JEDDA TO MINISTER OF STATE CAIRO AND FORCA.

Mr. Stonehewer Bird. D. 12.40 p.m. 22nd July, 1942.
No. 153 R. 9.55 p.m. 22nd July, 1942.
22nd July, 1942.

REPEATED TO FOREIGN OFFICE No. 239

999999999

My telegram 152.

Departure of the Italians.

The 3 boats which left yesterday proceeded westward until out of sight.

The remainder will leave two hours before sunset to-day
[Copies sent to Mr. Armstrong.]

INDEXED

Put with E 7

CONFIDENTIAL MESSAGE

1226A/16 August
OUT
Date 16. 8. 42.

To F.O.R.S.C.A. 719

Naval Code (X)

E4377 / 1 / 28
18 AUG

From Admiralty.
NITE

Have Italian refugees ex Jedda been captured?

1226A/16

Military Branch (808)

D.N.I.(5)
O.D.(5)
D. of P.(3)
EN M.(4) M.051219/42 and for Foreign Office

FO

(810) Wt47681/P5893 2/42 3,000 pads (in 3 sorts) JC&SLtd Gp674/34 & 35

8

MESSAGE.

10110/19th Aug.

IN

SECRET.

INDEXED

From F.O. Red Sea & Canal Area.

RECEIVED:—

DATE 29.8.42

TIME 1030

NAVAL CYPHER (X) BY CABLE

Addressed Admiralty.

E 4877 / 1 / 25

3 SEP 1942

104. Your 1226/16 ✓ 19 have been captured and interned at Port Sudan in charge of Area Commander. 3 reported to have reached Yenen. Remaining 14 unlocated.

10110/19

D.N.I. (5)
O.D. (5)
D. of P. (3)
M (4)(MO 51219/42 & for F.O.)

✓ Re Italian refugees ex JEDDA

Miss Watson Smith
Eastern Dept 7.0.

File Number :—

E 1

EASTERN.

SAUDI ARABIA

1942

Repatriation of Italian Refugees. July 22-August 29, 1942. TS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 FO_371_31447_E4377. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, link.gale.com/apps/doc/FCNSQE120612165/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=60111356&pg=1. Accessed 22 Feb. 2022.

28A.

E

1942

SAUDI ARABIA.

E 4382

4 JUL 1942

9

Registry Number } E 4382/1/25.

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Stonehewer-Bird, Jedda.

No. 236.

Dated 21st July, 1942.

Received in Registry } 24th July, 1942.

E:Saudi Arabia.

Repatriation of Italians from Saudi Arabia.
Text of telegram No. 150 of 21st July to Minister of State. Refers to SIME telegram No. 24364, 18th July. Pastori is among 20 Italian civilians examined and recommended by Saudi Arabian Medical Board for Repatriation on grounds of ill-health. His Majesty's Government have not yet given their decision but if permission is granted for repatriation of Italians it seems difficult to keep Pastori back.

Last Paper.

E 4379

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) Major Kirkman (WO) 1 July 42

8) Mr Waldock Admty. July 24 42

(Minutes.)

There is no trace in the W.O. of this telegram referred to. In any case, we are unlikely to proceed with the matter of repatriation of sick, pending a decision on an exchange of prisoners.

Copy Major Kirkman, W.O.

26/7

(Action completed.) 28/7

(Index.) 28/7

Next Paper.

E 4422.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

E

[CYPHER] DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

10

FROM JEDDA TO MINISTER OF STATE CAIRO

Mr. Stonehewer-Bird D. 9.30 a.m. 22nd July, 1942.
No. 150 R. 6.15 a.m. 23rd July, 1942.
21st July, 1942.

Repeated to Foreign Office No. 236.

0 0 0 0

SIME

? Special (or Secret) Intelligence Middle East

~~Sime~~ telegram No. 25364 of July 18th.

Pastori is among the 20 Italian civilians examined and recommended by Saudi Arabian Medical Board for repatriation on grounds of ill-health.

His Majesty's Government have not yet given their decision but if permission is granted for repatriation of the Italians declared unfit to remain in this climate it seems difficult to keep Pastori back.

[Copies sent to Mr. Armstrong].

E 4382
24 JUL 1942
F.O. REGISTRY

File Number :—

E 1

EASTERN.

SAUDI ARABIA.

1942

Repatriation of Italians from Saudi Arabia. July 21-22, 1942. TS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 FO_371_31447_E4382. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, link.gale.com/apps/doc/FURDFI157357244/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=5ecc6f58&pg=1. Accessed 22 Feb. 2022.

79 (last paper 78A)

E

1942

SAUDI ARABIA.

E 4422
25 JUL 1942

VI

Registry Number } E 4422/1/25.

FROM Sir Hughe Knatchbull-Hugessen (Angora).

No. 210 (101/71/42).

Dated 16th July, 1942.

Received in Registry } 25th July, 1942.

E: Saudi Arabia.

Italian refugees in Saudi Arabia.

Refers to Angora telegram No.1361 of 16th July (E 4271/1/25).

Transmits copy note of 14th July from Ministry of Foreign Affairs giving text of note received from Saudi Arabian Ministry of Foreign Affairs stating that, owing to lack of foodstuffs etc. Saudi Arabian Government are no longer able to maintain these Italian internees and requesting that Turkish Government approach British and Italian Governments with a view to their repatriation.

Last Paper.

E 4382

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

(*Minutes.*)

25/7

(Action completed.) 28/7

(Index.)

Next Paper.

E 4444

20009 9/39 F.O.P.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

No. 210 (101/71/42)

E 4422
28 JUL 1942

12

His Majesty's Representative in Turkey presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour to transmit herewith copy of the under-mentioned paper.

Angora,

16th July , 1942.

Reference to previous correspondence :

Angora telegram No 1361 to Foreign Office

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Angora. to H. M. Embassy, Angora of 14th July, 1942.	Italian Internees in Saudi-Arabia.

(*Similar letter to* Jedda.)

TÜRKIYE CÜMHURIYETI
HARICIYE VEKALETI

30442
192

13

S. A. l'Emir Faissal Al-Saoud, Prince héritier de l'Arabie Saoudite, en sa qualité du Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, a fait parvenir à la Légation de Turquie à Djédah une note dont la teneur est la suivante:

"Depuis quinze mois le Gouvernement Saoudite a tâché de faire le nécessaire pour assurer le confort et la commodité des internés civils et militaires italiens. Comme il ne restait plus de denrées alimentaires dans le pays l'alimentation des internés était assurée par les denrées importées de l'étranger. Dans la phase actuelle de la crise mondiale, ces possibilités d'importation n'existent plus. Nous ne pouvons même pas assurer les besoins de notre population en vivres.

D'autre part, par suite du manque de charbon, la quantité d'eau potable qu'on obtient en distillant l'eau de mer, a sérieusement dinimué et afin de pouvoir donner de cette eau aux internés italiens, nous sommes obligés de distribuer à notre population, de l'eau de pluie qui est malsaine.

Il est hors de doute que ces difficultés augmenteront par la suite. Pour ces raisons nous nous adressons au Gouvernement turc ami, pour le prier de bien vouloir faire les démarches nécessaires auprès des Gouvernements britannique et italien afin de procéder, dans les conditions qu'ils fixeraient, au départ des réfugiés par le moyen de l'échange."

La Légation de Turquie ajoute dans sa communication au Ministère que les faits ci-dessus relatés sont l'expression de la réalité et que le nombre des internés italiens qui se trouvent en Arabie Saoudite est d'environ 2900.

Ankara, le 14 juillet 1942.

A l'Ambassade de Sa Majesté Britannique

En ville.

File Number:—

E /

EASTERN.

SAUDI ARABIA.

1942

Italian Refugees in Saudi Arabia. 16 July 1942. TS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 FO_371_31447_E4422. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, link.gale.com/apps/doc/FBTULW077644783/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=fe62ad83&pg=4. Accessed 22 Feb. 2022.

80

E

1942

SAUDI ARABIA.

E 4444

27 JUL 1942

44

Registry Number } E 4444/1/25.

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Stonehewer-Bird
(Jedda).

No. 244.

Dated 26th July, 1942.

Received in Registry } 27th July, 1942.

E: Saudi Arabia.

New Turkish Minister: protection of German interests.

Newly appointed Turkish Minister has arrived and has officially informed Saudi Arabian Government that the German Government wish him to assume charge of German interests. Ibn Saud has asked for advice regarding his reply. Requests instructions.

Repeated Minister of State No.156 Angora No.8.

Last Paper.

E4422

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Copied M. Armstrong (WCO) by 4. Dept.

Tel) Jedda 194
Repts) Angora 1205
M. State 1681
28th July.

Copied M. Armstrong (WCO) by 4. Dept.

(Action completed.) 5/8

(Index.)

Next Paper.

E4479

(Minutes.)

I do not see how we can reasonably object to this. The Turkish Chargé d'Affaires has in fact been making representations on behalf of the German interests (merchant seamen) and demanding their release on the ground that they were non-combatants. It does not therefore seem to make much odds whether the Turkish Legation is officially in charge of German interests or not.

My reply that we do not see any grounds on which this request can reasonably be refused.

Southern Dept. TD 27/7.

27/7

General Dept. with Mr Eyres ES 28.VII

A A Cavendish July 27.

Dept. tel. to Jedda.

28/7

28/7

28.7.

22175 2/41 F.O.P.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

E 4444
27 JUL 1942

15

[CYPHER] DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

FROM JEDDA TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Stonehewer-Bird D. 12.10 p.m. 26th July, 1942.
No. 244 R. 11.30 p.m. 26th July, 1942.
26th July, 1942.

Repeated to Minister of State, Cairo telegram No. 156,
Angora telegram No. 8.

kkkkk

IMPORTANT.
Newly appointed Turkish Minister arrived here last week.

2. His first official act has been to inform Saudi Arabian Government that the German Government wish him to assume charge of German interests.

3. Ibn Saud instructed Yusuf Yasin to ask me what reply he should give. Yusuf Yasin thinks it is difficult to refuse: Italian Legation which handed over protection of Italian interests to the Turkish Legation was also in charge of German interests. At the same time Yusuf Yasin wishes it were not necessary to accede to the request as he foresees interference by the Turkish Legation in the affairs of German refugees who with the exception of Hall and his [group undec.: ? wife] are the only German subjects here.

4. I told Yusuf Yasin I thought the proposal undesirable but saw difficulty of refusal. I must of course seek your instructions before giving official reply.

5. As Ibn Saud will not wish delay to his reply I shall be grateful for your early instructions.

[Copies sent to Mr. Armstrong.]

F.O. REGISTRY

WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. E 4444/1/25

OUT FILE

IMPORTANT

6.20 pm 26/7

16

Draft. Telegram

H.M. Minister,

Jedda.

No. 194

Cypher. July 28

EK

No. 1205

Repeat Angora

No. 1681

Minister Cairo.

Dept. No. 1. 28/7

Your telegram No. 244 [of July 26th: protection of German interests in Saudi Arabia by ~~Germ~~ Turkish Legation]

While I sympathize with understand Saudi Arabian Govt's reluctance to accede to this request, I see no grounds on which they could reasonably refuse.

[Copies sent to Mr Armstrong]

17

OUT FILE

(E 4444/1/25)
[Cypher].

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO JEDDA.

No. 194.
28th July, 1942. D. 6.20 p.m. 28th July, 1942.

Repeated to Angora No.1205.
Minister of State Cairo No.1681.

vvvvvv

IMPORTANT.

Your telegram No.244 [of July 26th: protection of German interests in Saudi Arabia by Turkish Legation].

While I sympathise with Saudi Arabian Government's reluctance to accede to this request, I see no grounds on which they could reasonably refuse.

[Copies sent to Mr.Armstrong].

File Number :—

E 1.

EASTERN.

SAUDI ARABIA.

1942

New Turkish Minister: Protection of German Interests. July 26-28, 1942. MS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 FO_371_31447_E4444. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, link.gale.com/apps/doc/FBKCMJ593904416/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=c91e6248&pg=1. Accessed 22 Feb. 2022.

82

E

1942

SAUDI ARABIA.

E 4614

6 AUG 1942

20

Registry Number E 4614/1/25.

FROM Swiss Legation (Special Division).

No. It.l.c./331.

Dated 4th Aug. 1942.

Received in Registry 6th Aug. 1942.

E: Saudi-Arabia.

Departure of Italian Legation from Jedda; articles confiscated by S yrian customs officials.

The Italian Government have been informed that on 26th February, when diplomatic representatives from the Italian Legation at Jedda were crossing the Syrian Turkish frontier they were subjected to arbitrary customs measures by the Syrian officials and Australian B.S.M. soldiers attached to the British authorities. Points out that safe conducts had been provided, but in spite of this their luggage was confiscated and has not yet been returned. The frontier station in question is said to be Meydam ek Bez. The Italian Government have requested that these articles be returned as soon as possible.

Last Paper.

E4679

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Tel Beirut No 51. 11th Aug.

(Minutes.)

I presume that we were at liberty to detain confiscate any documents etc. that might contain information of use to the Enemy, but that purely personal effects should be returned in accordance with our agreement with the Italian Govt. (W.225/8/49-1940)

I submit a draft to Beirut on these lines.

8/8

General Dept.

That would be our general line.

ES 8.VIII

P.D. 10.VIII.42.

10/8

(Action completed.) PW 3/11.

(Index.) 3/4

Next Paper.

E4657

20009 9/39 F.O.P.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

E 4614 21
6 AUG 1940

It.l.c./ 331

The Swiss Legation, Special Division for Safeguarding Italian Interests, present their compliments to His Majesty's Foreign Office and have the honour to solicit the favour of their kind intervention in the following matter:

According to a communication from the Swiss Government, it would appear that the Italian Government have been informed that on February 26th, when certain diplomatic representatives from the Italian Legation at Jedda were crossing the Syrian-Turkish frontier, they were subjected to arbitrary Customs measures by Syrian officials and Australian "B.S.M." soldiers attached to the British Authorities. The British Legation at Jedda had provided the Italian diplomats with safe conducts, guaranteeing their personal immunity and that of their luggage, but notwithstanding this their personal effects and despatch cases containing documents were confiscated. It appears that the Customs officials promised to return the various articles after inspection, but this would not as yet seem to have been done, and the Italian Government have consequently expressed the wish that steps should be taken forthwith to have restitution of the confiscated articles made as

soon as possible. The frontier station in question is said to be Meydam ek Bez (?).

The Special Division wish to recommend this matter to the kind consideration of His Majesty's Foreign Office and will be glad to have any reply which the latter may care to make transmitted to the Swiss Government for the information of the Italian Government.

SWISS LEGATION, SPECIAL DIVISION,
Duke of York Steps, S.W. 1.

4th August, 1942.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. E 4614/1/25

H.M.E.

Draft. 8

Sir E. Spears,
Beirut.

No. 51.

General Department.

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W. 1.

August 10th 1942.

23

Sir,

I transmit to you herewith a copy of a note from the Swiss Legation on the subject of the confiscation at the Syrian frontier of certain effects belonging to the staff of the Italian Legation at Jedda, who were returning to Italy.

2. I also enclose a copy of Foreign Office circular despatch W 225/8/49 of 23rd January, ~~1939~~ 1941, from which you will see that, by agreement with the Italian Government, purely personal and household effects belonging to British or Italian diplomats travelling to or from their posts are not liable to detention. I shall be glad therefore if you will cause enquiries to be made into the circumstances of this case and to arrange for the return of any personal effects that were detained contrary to the agreement. You should report in due course what action has been

been 2 Weeks, in order that a reply may be returned to the Swiss Legation.

WJ 10/8

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

No. 51. FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1. 24A

(E 4614/1/25) 10th August, 1942.

Sir,

I transmit to you herewith a copy of a note from the Swiss Legation on the subject of the confiscation at the Syrian frontier of certain effects belonging to the staff of the Italian Legation at Jedda, who were returning to Italy.

2. I also enclose a copy of Foreign Office circular despatch W 225/8/49 of 23rd January, 1941, from which you will see that, by agreement with the Italian Government, purely personal and household effects belonging to British or Italian diplomats travelling to or from their posts are not liable to detention. I shall be glad therefore if you will cause enquiries to be made into the circumstances of this case and arrange for the return of any personal effects that were detained contrary to the agreement. You should report in due course what action has been taken, in order that a reply may be returned to the Swiss Legation.

I am, with great truth and regard,
Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
(For the Secretary of State)

Cue Butler.

Major-General
Sir Edward L. Spears, K.B.E., C.B., M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.,
Beirut.

File Number:—

E

EASTERN.

Departure of Italian Legation from Jedda; Articles Confiscated by S Yrian Customs Officials. August 4-10, 1942. MS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 FO_371_31447_E4614. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, link.gale.com/apps/doc/EBRCNV655207156/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=b86ff7dc&pg=4. Accessed 22 Feb. 2022.

89

E

1942

SAUDI ARABIA.

E 4857
AUG 1942

25

Registry Number } E 4857/1/25

FROM Mr. Wallis (Trading with the Enemy Department) to No. Mr. Eyres.

Dated 14th August, 1942.
Received in Registry } 18th August, 1942.

E: Saudi Arabia.

Distribution of money to Italian internees in Saudi Arabia.
Refers to Mr. Eyres' letter of 3rd April (E 2057/1/25) Transmits copy of a letter to the Swiss Bank Corporation giving permission for the remittance of £925.5.1. to Commandant Gasparini's account at Jedda for distribution to interned Italian Navy Personnel.

Last Paper.

E4614 (E 2057)

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

I think this is all right.

P.7 W/Sept.
CW 22/8

H.M.Eyres 19/8

Ref E within letter No. T/E 39596 Section 2 of 5th October from H. Jolly (TOLED) to H.M. Eyres.

9/10

(Action completed.)
9/6 M.M.G 25/8

(Index.)
9/10

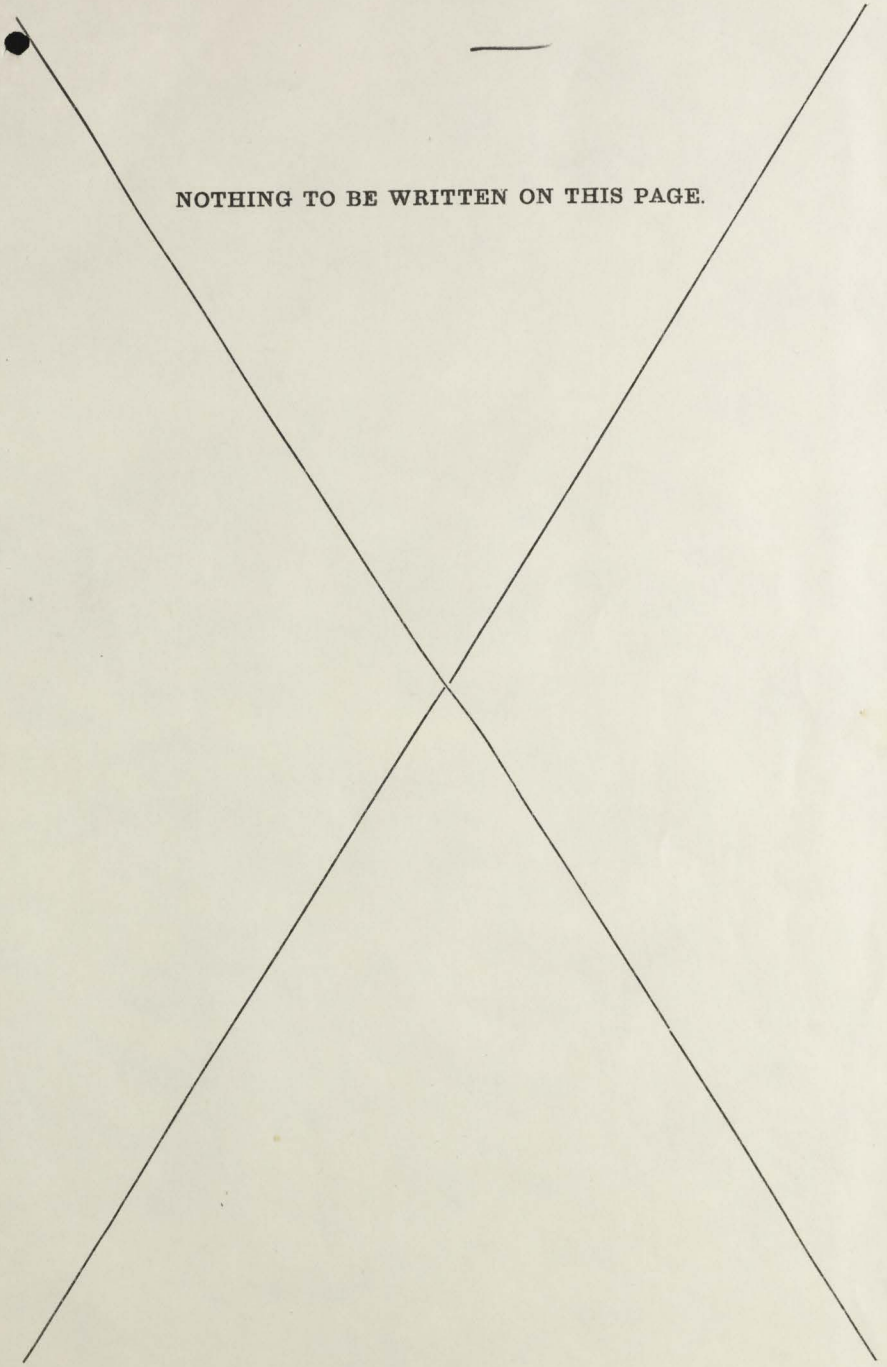
Next Paper.

E4872

(E 960/960/25-1942)

20009 9/39 F.O.P.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.



DEPARTMENT

TRADING WITH THE ENEMY BRANCH

(Treasury and Board of Trade).

Telephone No.:
HOLBORN 4300.

Telegraphic Address:
"TRADENEMY, LONDON."

Any reply should be addressed to "THE CONTROLLER."

24, KINGSWAY,
LONDON, W.C.2.

General
26
AUG 1942

Your Ref.:	Our Ref.:
E.2057/1/25	T/E 43899. Section 1.

August, 1942.

Dear Eyres,

In compliance with the request contained in your letter dated 3rd April, I attach copy of the Department's letter of today's date concerning a further remittance to Djeddah in favour of the interned Italian Navy personnel.

Yours sincerely,

H.M.Eyres Esq.,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

Eastern Department.

COPY

TRADING WITH THE ENEMY DEPARTMENT
(Treasury and Board of Trade)

27

24, Kingsway,
London, W.C.2.

Gen.Corr.JJ 43899.
Sect. 1.

14th August, 1942.

Sir,

With reference to your letter dated 6th August concerning telegraphic instructions received by you from your Geneva Office to pay to the National Provincial Bank Ltd. the sum of £925.5.1. with a request to remit the said amount to Djeddah for account of Commandant Gasparini in favour of the interned personnel of the Italian Royal Navy, I am directed by the Controller General to inform you that authority as may be requisite is hereby given on behalf of the Treasury, pursuant to proviso (i) to Section 1(2) of the Trading with the Enemy Act, 1939, for you to effect the payment in question and for the National Provincial Bank Ltd. to receive and remit the said sum to Djeddah for account of Commandant Gasparini for the purpose stated, subject to compliance with the Defence (Finance) Regulations.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

S. H. WALLIS.

The Manager,
Swiss Bank Corporation,
"West Hall",
Byfleet,
Surrey.

DEPARTMENT

TRADING WITH THE ENEMY BRANCH

(Treasury and Board of Trade).

Put with

Telephone No.:
HOLBORN 4300.

Telegraphic Address:
"TRADENEMY, LONDON."

Any reply should be addressed to "THE CONTROLLER."

INDEXED

24, KINGSWAY,
LONDON, W.C.2.

General

Your Ref.:	Our Ref.:
(E 2057/1/25)	T/E 39596. Section 2.

28 October, 1942.

E 4857 / 1 / 25

5 OCT 1942

E 2057

Dear Eyres,

In accordance with the request contained in your letter dated 3rd April, 1942, I enclose copy of letter to the Swiss Bank Corporation concerning a further remittance to Djeddah for account of Italian troops interned there.

Yours sincerely,

H.M.Eyres Esq.,
Foreign Office,
Eastern Department,
Downing Street,
S.W.1.

TRADING WITH THE ENEMY DEPARTMENT
(Treasury and Board of Trade)

24 Kingsway,
London, W.C.2.

29

F.M.City S.F. 39596.
Section 2.

October, 1942.

Sir,

With reference to your letter dated 28th September, concerning instructions received by you from your Geneva Office to remit through the National Provincial Bank Ltd. to Djeddah by order of the Intereroixrouge, Geneva, the sum of £750.10.0. to cover payment second quarter 1942 for Italian army troops interned at Djeddah, I am directed by the Controller-General to inform you that this letter is authority as may be requisite pursuant to the Trading with the Enemy Act, 1939, for you to give effect to the instructions of your Geneva Office and for the National Provincial Bank Ltd. to act in accordance therewith, subject to compliance with the Defence (Finance) Regulations 1939.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

The Manager,
Swiss Bank Corporation,
99 Gresham Street,
E.C.2.

File Number:—

E 1.

EASTERN.

SAUDI ARABIA.

1942

Distribution of Money to Italian Internees in Saudi Arabia. August 14-October 5, 1942. TS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 FO_371_31447_E4857. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, link.gale.com/apps/doc/DWKRKY569943249/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=4521b89d&pg=1. Accessed 22 Feb. 2022.

84

E

1942

SAUDI ARABIA.

30

E 4872

19 AUG 1942

Registry Number E 4872/1/25.

TELEGRAM FROM Sir Kinahan Cornwallis

No. Bagdad. 43 (S).

Dated 6th Aug. 1942.

Received in Registry 12th Aug. 1942.

E: Saudi-Arabia.

Italian Legation Repatriation Expenses.

Refers to Foreign Office telegram No. 359 of 30th March (E 1863/1/25). The Italian Minister and party from Jedda passed through Iraq nearly six months ago and an account with Thomas Cook and Son Limited for cost of transport is still outstanding. Repeated representations to Turkish Minister as protecting power in Iraq have produced no result. H.M. Ambassador at Angora, whose assistance was invoked appears to have had no better luck. In the circumstances enquires whether matter could be taken up through Swiss Government. Payments could then be made either in London or through Swiss Consul in Iraq. Repeated Angora 27 Saving.

Last Paper.

E 4654

References.

X 3430/3430/501

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Dft) Swiss Legation August 28th

9) Bagdad No. 148 August 28th

Dft. Swiss Legation May 3/1943

NOTED ESTAB. DEPT

(Action completed.) W.S. 1/9/43.

(Index.)

Next Paper.

(X 3430/3430/501/1944) E 4978

(Minutes.)

X 5260/3430/501/1943

I doubt whether it is much use taking this matter up through a second channel. The dilatoriness would appear to be all on the Italian side, since the Turkish Govt. appear to have acted quite promptly (E.1863). Moreover, the claim has been reduced from T.D. 2000 to T.D. 745/315, which either means that something has already been paid on account, or else shows that the Italian Govt. have some justification for not paying on the nail.

None the less, I suppose we had better have a try at the Swiss Legation. Dft. submitted.

22/8

General Dept 25.VIII

Southern Dept 26/8

WMJ 24/8

See within note No St.I.C./449 from Swiss Legation, Special Division Dft 1/9.

22910 9/41 F.O.P.

2/8 7/9

B.M. 30 Oct. (initialled) A.M.G. 1/10.

Over

31

See within

Note from Swiss Legation Ref. I.C. 472 of May 6th 1943.

C.C. Dept. (K.O.) 12/5 7/5

P.U. 20/6

It seems most unlikely that we should get anything out of this Italian firm in present circumstances and as this account has been outstanding since about March 1942, it is rather hard luck on them. Thos. Cook. Can we not pay them off & reimburse ourselves if the Italians ever come up to scratch? (There are also X pp. which refer)

C.C. Dept. 1/7

We have already had Treasury authority to pay these Thos Cook T.L. S.50959 and have in fact paid Vide X5760/3430/501. K.T. Bamford 12/7/43.

Good.

28/7 2/8.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

[En Clair]. DEPARTMENTAL NO.1. 32

FROM BAGDAD TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Sir K. Cornwallis. D. By bag 6th August, 1942.
No. 43 SAVING. R. 5.20 p.m. 18th August, 1942.
6th August, 1942.

Repeated to Angora No. 27 SAVING.

****

Your telegram No. 359. E 1863/1/25

Italian Minister and party from Jedda passed through Iraq nearly six months ago and account with Thos. Cook and Son Limited for cost of transport is still outstanding. Sum amounts to I.D. 745/315. My repeated representations to Turkish Minister as representative of protecting power in Iraq have produced no result. Sir Hughe Knatchbull-Hugessen whose assistance I invoked, appears to have had no better luck at Angora. Since travel agency performed their part of the transaction in good faith it seems unjust that they should be penalised by Turkish or Italian dilatoriness.

2. In these circumstances would it be possible for you to take matter up through Swiss Government? Payment of account could then be made either in London or by Swiss Consul here.

E 4872 AUG 1942
F.O. REGISTRY

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. E 4872/1/25

33 2bcr

OUT FILE + I/C please

28 Aug

Draft.

Swiss Legation,
Special Division

The F.O. presents its compliments to the Swiss Legation, Special Division for Safeguarding Italian Interests, and has the honour to state that Messrs. Thomas Cook & Son Ltd of Bagdad ~~have~~ have a claim (against the Italian Govt.) amounting to T.L. 745 Fils 315 on account of the travelling expenses of the Italian Minister at Jedda and his party, who returned to Italy through Iraq in February last.

H.M. Ambassador at Bagdad has made repeated representations to the Turkish Minister, as representative of the Protecting Power there, but has so far been unable to obtain a refund of the amount outstanding. H.M.G. would therefore be grateful if the Swiss Govt. would be good enough to take up this matter with the Italian Govt. and arrange for the payment of the account either in London, or through the Swiss Consul at Bagdad.

WM 25/8

Copy Bagdad.

General Dept.

Southern Dept. 24/8

WM 24/8

No. E 4872/1/25. OUT FILE 34

The Foreign Office present their compliments to the Swiss Legation, Special Division for Safeguarding Italian Interests, and have the honour to state that Thomas Cook and Son Limited of Bagdad have a claim against the Italian Government amounting to I.D. 745 Fils 315 on account of the travelling expenses of the Italian Minister at Jedda and his party, who returned to Italy through Iraq in February last.

2. His Majesty's Ambassador at Bagdad has made repeated representations to the Turkish Minister, as representative of the Protecting Power there, but has so far been unable to obtain a refund of the amount outstanding. His Majesty's Government would therefore be grateful if the Swiss Government would be good enough to take up this matter with the Italian Government and arrange for the payment of the account either in London, or through the Swiss Consul at Bagdad.

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

28th August, 1942.

INDEXED

35

E

E 4872 / 1 / 25
4 SEP 1942

It.l.c./449

2c

The Swiss Legation, Special Division for Safeguarding Italian Interests, present their compliments to His Majesty's Foreign Office and have the honour to acknowledge receipt of the latter's note No. E 4872/1/25 of 28th August, 1942, concerning an amount due to Messrs. Thomas Cook and Son Limited of Bagdad in respect of the travelling expenses of the Italian Minister at Jedda and his party who returned to Italy through Iraq in February last.

The Special Division have not failed to convey this communication to the Swiss Government, for transmission to the Italian Government.

SWISS LEGATION, SPECIAL DIVISION,
Duke of York Steps, S.W. 1.

1st September, 1942.

ING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. E. 4492/102/25

PUT FILE

Draft.

Swiss Legation.

C.C. Dept.

1st May

1936

The F.O. present their compliments to the Swiss Legation, Special Division for Safeguarding Italian Interests, and with ref. to the latter's note It. I. C./449 of the 1st September, 1942, have the honour to enquire whether any reply has yet been received from the Italian Govt. re the amount due to Messrs. Thomas Cook & Son Ltd. of Baghdad on account of the travelling expenses of the Italian Minister at Jedda & his family.

21/4

OUT FILE

37

(E 4872/1/25).

The Foreign Office present their compliments to the Swiss Legation, Special Division for Safeguarding Italian Interests, and, with reference to the latter's note It.I.C./449 of the 1st September, 1942, have the honour to enquire whether any reply has yet been received from the Italian Government about the amount due to Messrs. Thomas Cook and Son Limited of Bagdad on account of the travelling expenses of the Italian Minister at Jedda and his party.

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

3rd May, 1943.

INDEXED 38

E 4872 / 1 / 25
6 MAY 1943

It.l.C./ 472

The Swiss Legation, Special Division for Safeguarding Italian Interests, present their compliments to His Majesty's Foreign Office and have the honour to acknowledge receipt of the latter's note No. E 4872/1/25 of 3rd May, 1943, concerning the amount due to Messrs. Thomas Cook and Son Limited of Bagdad on account of the travelling expenses of the Italian Minister at Jedda and his party.

The Special Division having as yet received no reply in this connection, have not failed to submit the matter once more to the Swiss Government, by telegram, in order that it may again be brought to the notice of the Italian Government.

SWISS LEGATION, SPECIAL DIVISION,
Duke of York Steps, S.W. 1.

4th May, 1943.

File Number :—

E 1.

EASTERN.

SAUDI ARABIA.

1942

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

Group..... FO .....

Class ..... 371 .....

Piece ..... 31447 .....

Following document(s)*

retained in the Department of origin*

~~transferred to PRO Safe Room~~*

E 4978/1/25

and closed until..... 2018 .....

*delete as necessary

Italian Legation Repatriation Expenses. August 6, 1942-May 4, 1943. MS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 FO_371_31447_E4872. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, link.gale.com/apps/doc/DESEXR506039970/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=54faf791&pg=1. Accessed 22 Feb. 2022.

89

E

1942

SAUDI ARABIA.

E 5860 — 3 OCT 1942 — 72

Registry Number: E 5860/1/25.

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Stonehewer-Bird, Jedda.

No. 314

Dated 3rd Oct. 1942.

Received in Registry 6th Oct. 1942.

E: Saudi-Arabia.

Repatriation of sick and aged Axis refugees.

Addressed to Minister of State No. 197. Refers to Jedda telegram No. 195 of 15th June (E 3627/1/25). Saudi Government have heard that a ship may, in the near future, be carrying Italian non-combatants from East Africa to Italy. They enquire as to possibility of sick Italian and German refugees being repatriated by the same ship. If this were agreed the Saudi Government could, failing other means of transport, send these persons to Massawa by launch which would take a week to cross from Jedda. Total number involved would not exceed 31.

Last Paper.

E 5555/

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

See written Jedda tel 315. 7 Oct

The question of the repatriation of sick internees has been left in abeyance pending a settlement of the question of the repatriation of all internees in Jedda.

But if there is an opportunity to get the 31 unfit men on board an Italian repatriation ship at Massawa, it might be as well to take it, provided the Admiralty have no objection, and provided the necessary arrangements can be made with our authorities in East Africa.

Egyptian Dept. communic. P. of W. Dept.

H.M. Byrne 6/10

(2nd flight.)

The ships now about to sail will be loaded to capacity by the persons already allocated to them, but there is no reason why the Italians, at least, from S. Arabia should not be embarked on the 3rd flight. It was not so far contemplated allowing Germans to enjoy this repatriation service, but doubtless this could be arranged on a

22175 2/41 F.O.P.

(How disposed of.)

Dft) M. Mossop (Admty) Hand M. Eyres. October 10.

Tel Jedda No 264. Oct 12.

Sgd Mr Mossop (Admty) Oct 12

Repd. Cairo No 2641. 12-10-12

(Action completed.)

RW 13/10

(Index.)

DOC 14/10

Next Paper.

E 6180

basis of reciprocity

73

6.X

No objection to Mr Williams going as suggested. We may get something worth having in this way of British sailors if his general repatriation comes off with Mr Williams. We are trying to keep Mr Germans out of Mail Service. I think we should not mind letting Mr Germans go too if this were likely to facilitate matters.

HSD.
7/10

Off. to Mr. Comptr. Admiralty.

9/10

HA Cavan
Actg.

We had better let Mr Reid know that there is no chance of sending them on these ships sailing now; but that there may be another chance on a subsequent voyage. The letter must for his own information only.

9/10

Off. Repl. to Telda.

11/10

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

E

74

E 5860

[CYPHER[

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

OCT 1942

FROM JEDDA TO MINISTER OF STATE CAIRO.

Mr. Stonehewer-Bird,
No.197.
3rd October, 1942.

D. 3.00 p.m. 3rd October, 1942.

R. 12.20 a.m. 4th October, 1942.

Repeated to Foreign Office No.314.

mmmmmmmmmmmm

E 3627/1/25

My telegram No. 195 of June 15th.

The Saudi-Arabian Government have heard that a ship may, in the near future, be carrying Italian non-combatants from East Africa to Italy. They ask, if this should be so, whether there is any possibility of sick Italians and German refugees, both civil and military at present in this country who have been certified by the Board, satisfying the doctors as unfit for military service, being repatriated on the same ship. If it were agreed to allow any of these persons to travel on this ship the Saudi-Arabian Government, failing other means of transport, could send to Massawa by launch which would take a week to cross from Jedda. Total number involved would not exceed 31.

[Copies sent to Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Hopkinson.]

5 OCT 1942 REGISTRY F.O.

IC E 5860/1/25
8 OCT 1942
INDEXED

[Cypher] DEPARTMENTAL No. 1

FROM JEDDA TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Stonehewer-Bird
No. 315
7th October, 1942

D. 11.00 a.m. 7th October, 1942
R. 12.45a.m. 8th October, 1942

Repeated to Minister of State Cairo No. 198

a.a.a.a.a.a.a

E

Introduction to my telegram No. 314 (telegram No. 197 to Minister of State) should read "Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 314 of October 3rd repeated to Minister of State telegram No. 197 etc".

[Copies sent to Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Hopkinson].

8 OCT 1942 REGISTRY

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. E 5860/1/25

H.M.E.

Draft.
J.C.

Mr. Mossop,
Admiralty.

(From Mr. Eyres)

Copy of Jedda tels.
Nos. 314 + 315

104

OUT FILE

10 October, 1942.

76

Dear Mossop,

I enclose a copy of two telegrams from Jedda, asking whether there is any possibility of repatriating sick Italian and German refugees on the ships taking back Italian non-combatants from East Africa. You will remember that the question of repatriating these sick internees was raised before (see our official letter E 3627/1/25 of the 25th June), but that it was left in abeyance in view of the proposal to try and effect a wholesale exchange of internees against British naval personnel held by the Italians.

We understand that the ships now about to sail from East Africa will be loaded to capacity by the persons already allocated to them, but that it might be possible to find room for the Jedda internees on the next voyage of the ships which, all being well, will presumably take place in about three months' time. We hope that by that time we

shall/

77

shall have had a reply from the Italian Government about the wholesale exchange, but if any hitch occurs in this, we ~~shall~~ should be glad to know whether you would see any objection to the repatriation of these 31 sick internees, including the Germans.

WM 9/10

Yours sincerely

Signed H M Lyttelton

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

OUT FILE

78

(E 5860/1/25).

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.
10th October, 1942.

Dear Mossop,

I enclose a copy of two telegrams from Jedda, asking whether there is any possibility of repatriating sick Italian and German refugees on the ships taking back Italian non-combatants from East Africa. You will remember that the question of repatriating these sick internees was raised before (see our official letter E 3627/1/25 of the 25th June), but that it was left in abeyance in view of the proposal to try and effect a wholesale exchange of internees against British naval personnel held by the Italians.

We understand that the ships now about to sail from East Africa will be loaded to capacity by the persons already allocated to them, but that it might be possible to find room for the Jedda internees on the next voyage of the ships which, all being well, will presumably take place in about three months' time. We hope that by that time we shall have had a reply from the Italian Government about the wholesale exchange, but if any hitch occurs in this, we should be glad to know whether you would see any objection to the repatriation of these thirty-one sick internees, including the Germans.

Yours sincerely,

Sgd H M Eyres.

J.C. Mossop, Esq.,
Admiralty.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE

E.5860/1/25

Draft Telegram

H.M. Minister,

Jedda.

No. 264

Cypher.

Oct 12

EK17

Repeat Minister,

Cairo.

2444

Dept. No. 1.

Copy to Admty.

Egyptian Dept.

12/10/25

13/10/25

OUTFILE

Your telegram No. 314 [of Oct. 3rd: Repatriation of sick Asiatic internees from Jedda]

I understand that ships now about to sail from East Africa are loaded to capacity and that there is no possibility of including in them any internees from Jedda.

2. For your own information, there may be another opportunity on a subsequent voyage, but you should not at present mention this possibility

80 possibility to Saudi Arabian Govt.

CWJ 12/10

[illegible]

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN

OUTWARD TELEGRAM

OUT FILE

81

E.5860/1/25

[CYPHER] DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO JEDDA

No. 264

12th October, 1942. D. 12.10 p.m. 13th October, 1942.

Repeated to Minister of State, Cairo No. 2441.

sssss

Your telegram No. 314 [of October 3rd: Repatriation of sick Axis internees from Jedda].

I understand that ships now about to sail from East Africa are loaded to capacity and that there is no possibility of including in them any internees from Jedda.

2. For your own information, there may be another opportunity on a subsequent voyage, but you should not at present mention this possibility to Saudi Arabian Government.

[Copies sent to Mr, Armstrong]

File Number:—

E 1.

EASTERN.

SAUDI ARABIA.

1942

Repatriation of Sick and Aged Axis Refugees. 3 Oct. 1942. MS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 FO_371_31447_E5860. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, link.gale.com/apps/doc/DERZWS968613538/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=9c8a318b&pg=1. Accessed 22 Feb. 2022.

91

E

1942

SAUDI ARABIA.

E 6407 82

2 NOV 1942

Registry Number E 6407/1/25

FROM Mr. Mossop Admiralty. to Mr. Eyres.

No. M. 08468/42

Dated 28th Oct. 1942

Received in Registry 2nd Nov. 1942

E: Saudi Arabia

Repatriation of sick and aged enemy refugees.

Refers to Foreign Office letter of 10th October (E 5860/1/25). The Admiralty are opposed to considering the question of repatriating sick and aged Italian and German refugees until the Italians have replied about able bodied Naval personnel. If their exchange goes through suggests including the sick refugees. Understands Prisoners of War Department wish to clear out all the civilian internees at the same time.

Last Paper.

E 6180.

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.) 2/12

(Index.)

Next Paper.

E 6648

(Minutes.)

We were only considering the possibility of repatriating the sick if the general negotiations fell through.

P. of W. 6/11

4/11

We are now waiting for an Italian reply about the naval personnel & have, in the hopes of speeding things up, let anyone of them on it. We could stop the Italians from sailing.

H. E. Salow

6/11

B.O. 30/11

8/11

Negotiations with the Italians are proceeding and we may hope that the wholesale exchange proposed will go through.

1/12

23577 3/42 F.O.P.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

M.08468/42

Military Branch

83

E 6407

2 NOV 1942

28th October 1942

Dear Eyres,

Thank you for your letter of the 10th October 1942, No. E.5860/1/25, about the possibility of repatriating sick Italian and German refugees on the ships taking back Italian non-combatants from East Africa. As you are aware, we are opposed to considering the question of repatriating the sick internees until we have had a firm reply from the Italians about the able-bodied Naval personnel. If, however, their exchange goes through, my own feeling is that we should throw in the sick refugees as a make-weight in order to get rid of them. Indeed, I believe your Prisoners of War Department have in mind to clear out all the civilian internees at the same time. In the circumstances we would prefer to let a definite answer to Jedda's query stand over until we hear more from the Italians.

Yours sincerely,

J. C. Monk

H.M. Eyres, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
S. W. 1.

File Number:—

E 1

EASTERN.

SAUDI ARABIA.

1942

Repatriation of Sick and Aged Enemy Refugees. 28 Oct. 1942. TS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 FO_371_31447_E6407. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, link.gale.com/apps/doc/FIJMCW663269320/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=601f4ceb&pg=1. Accessed 22 Feb. 2022.

93

87

E

1942

SAUDI ARABIA

E 7239
12 DEC 1942

Registry Number E 7239/1/25.

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Bird, Jedda.

No. 360.

Dated 10th Dec. 1942.
Received in Registry 12th Dec. 1942.

E: Saudi-Arabia.

Position of Saudi Minister at Vichy and Vichy Minister at Jedda.

Ibn Saud is worried about Fuad Hamza and Ballereau neither of whom can obtain funds. Ballereau has approached Ibn Saud with a request for a loan which the latter feels he cannot refuse. Regarding Fuad, Ibn Saud does not want him back in Saudi-Arabia nor can he keep him in Vichy without funds. Swiss Government have refused to have him as Minister at Berne. Has advised Ibn Saud that the only satisfactory solution would be the withdrawal of both from their posts.

Last Paper.

E 6648

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Tel Jedda 2. repeated m/State Cairo 4 Jan 1
8) Sir B. Reilly (B.C) Jan 2.

(Action completed.)

PW 1/1

(Index.)

9d4 1/43

Next Paper.

E 7341

(Minutes.)

This situation has now reached the absurd point where Fuad Hamza is begging us to supply him with Swiss francs and M. Ballereau is proposing to live on Ibn Saud's charity, which means H.M.G.'s charity. There would, as far as I can make out, be no difficulty about a reciprocal arrangement whereby the Saudi Arabian & Vichy Govts. paid equivalent sums to the other's Minister, were it not for the fact that Fuad Hamza insists on keeping his family in Geneva and must have Swiss francs for their support. He can apparently obtain no Swiss francs in ~~Vichy~~ France or only at a rate which involves considerable loss.

The advantages & disadvantages of suggesting the withdrawal of both Ministers were considered at length on E 2478/648/G. The view then taken was that it would be best not to ask Ibn Saud to break with Vichy. But the situation has now altered in that (1) the whole of France has been occupied by the Germans (2) M. Ballereau, who hitherto has been able to find money, is now proposing to live, in effect, at H.M.G.'s expense. I don't know whether Fuad Hamza has been able to obtain Swiss francs for his family, but it

87

it is always possible that if things continue as at present, we shall receive repeated appeals for Swiss frames both from here and the Sand. I submit therefore that the time has come to tell the Sand that if he cannot make a reciprocal arrangement with the Vichy Govt. for the transport of their respective Ministers, the only thing he can do is to send Bakeresen away and transfer Fund to, say, Angora, where he is hardly likely to be a power for evil.

12/12

I attach a draft which might perhaps be discussed with Mr Bird on his arrival in London in a few days time.

Dec 14

15/12

The Revised draft now attached has been discussed with Mr Bird.

Q. Lord.

French Dept (Vichy - Swiss Legation) 29/12

Scandinavian Dept (Stockholm etc. Swedish Legation at Angora)

5[illegible] 30/12.

Yes: this seems right.

1.1.43.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

E

89

[CYPHER] DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

E 7239
12 DEC 1942

FROM JEDDA TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Stonehewer-Bird
No. 360.
10th December, 1942.

D. 3. 0 p.m. 10th December, 1942.
R. 10.25 p.m. 10th December, 1942.

Repeated to Minister of State No. 25 SAVING.

JJJJ

Ibn Saud is worried about Fuad Hamza and Ballereau, Vichy Minister here. Neither can obtain funds.

2. Ballereau has approached Ibn Saud with a request for a loan. He pretends that he is practically destitute and suggests that if a loan cannot be given, he be treated as are Italian internees or recipients of benefit under the King's relief scheme. Ibn Saud is disgusted but feels as in the case of the ex-Italian Minister that if he treats Ballereau ungenerously, his own dignity will suffer.

3. As regards Fuad, Ibn Saud is in a quandary. He does not wish to have him back in Saudi Arabia or in the Middle East nor can he keep him in Vichy without funds. The Swiss Government turned down the suggestion that he should be appointed to Berne and he does not anticipate any alternative post for him.

4. Asked for my opinion, I thought the only satisfactory solution of the two problems was withdrawal of the two representatives from their posts but that as this would entail the appointment of Fuad to another post, the question on which you would naturally wish to be consulted, I preferred to ask for your approval before offering definite advice. Meanwhile if Ballereau held out his hand and His Majesty thought it inconsistent with his dignity to refuse I saw [?grp. omit.?no] harm in his advancing him money for living expenses if he were prepared to sign receipt either officially or personally.

[Copies sent to Mr. Armstrong.]

OTP.

1942 DEC 13 F.O. REGISTRY

Registry No. E7239/1/25

C.W.B.

Draft.

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires,
Jedda.

Telegram.

No. 2.

Cypher. EK 23

Departmental No. 2

Jan 1 21

Repeat to:
Minister of State 4

French Dept Nov 30/12

Southern Dept
SC 30/12.

11.45 am

9B

OUT FILE

F. O., 2.1.43

December , 1942

Despatched 6.15a *M.*

Your telegrams Nos. 360 and 368 [of December 10th and 14th. Position of Vichy Minister at Jedda and of Saudi Minister at Vichy]

Time has evidently come for Ibn Saud to review the whole position. If Fuad and Ballereau are to remain at their posts, financial difficulties will clearly have to be straightened out. But ~~It is for consideration whether~~ does Ibn Saud still wish to maintain diplomatic relations with the Vichy Government, now that their nominal independence has been extinguished by the German occupation of the whole of France?

2. If both Ministers are to remain at their posts, the obvious solution of the financial difficulties is the reciprocal arrangement so often proposed, whereby Fuad would receive francs from Vichy Government against rials paid to Ballereau at Jedda. Your telegram No. 235 [of July 21st] shows that Fuad objects to this arrangement because he cannot remit funds to his family in Berne. But Fuad's objections must not be allowed to be the deciding factor. Could not Ibn Saud tell Fuad that he has no other appointment to offer him and that he must insist upon this arrangement being accepted?

3. If, on the other hand, Ibn Saud decides that time has come to discontinue diplomatic relations with Vichy Government, he could

presumably/

presumably easily arrange M. Ballereau's departure, while as regards Fuad, if the King really considers it essential to offer him another post, he might wish to consider establishing a Legation at Angora. But it would certainly be very undesirable that Fuad should be given an official position in Saudi Arabia or in any of the Arab countries.

4. If Ibn Saud requests a definite expression of H.M.G.'s views on these alternatives, you may take the line that, while we are willing to leave it entirely to the King to decide whether or not to continue to maintain relations with Vichy, we are inclined to think that time has come for relations to be discontinued.

[Copies sent to Mr Cummings]

E.7239/1/25

OUT FILE

[CYPHER] DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO JEDDA

No. 2 D. 6.15 a.m. 2nd January, 1943.

1st January, 1943.

Repeated to Minister of State's Office Cairo No. 4.

0 0 0 0

Your telegrams Nos. 360 and 368 [of December 10th and 14th. Position of Vichy Minister at Jedda and of Saudi Minister at Vichy.]

Time has evidently come for Ibn Saud to review the whole position. If Fuad and Ballereau are to remain at their posts, financial difficulties will clearly have to be straightened out. But does Ibn Saud still wish to maintain diplomatic relations with the Vichy Government, now that their nominal independence has been extinguished by the German occupation of the whole of France?

2. If both Ministers are to remain at their posts, the obvious solution of the financial difficulties is the reciprocal arrangement so often proposed, whereby Fuad would receive francs from Vichy Government against rials paid to Ballereau at Jedda. Your telegram No. 235 [of July 21st] shows that Fuad objects to this arrangement because he cannot remit funds to his family in Berne. But Fuad's objections must not be allowed to be the deciding factor. Could not Ibn Saud tell Fuad that he has no other appointment to offer him and that he must insist upon this arrangement being accepted?

3. If, on the other hand, Ibn Saud decides that time has come to discontinue diplomatic relations with Vichy Government, he could presumably easily arrange M. Ballereau's departure, while as regards Fuad, if the King really considers it essential to offer him another post, he might wish to consider establishing a Legation at Angora. But it would certainly be very undesirable that Fuad should be given an official position in Saudi Arabia or in any of the Arab countries.

4. If Ibn Saud requests a definite expression of His Majesty's Government's views on these alternatives, you may take the line that, while we are willing to leave it entirely to the King to decide whether or not to continue to maintain relations with Vichy, we are inclined to think that time has come for relations to be discontinued.

[Copies sent to Mr. Armstrong].

File Number :—

E 1

EASTERN.

SAUDI ARABIA

29-2

Position of Saudi Minister at Vichy and Vichy Minister at Jedda. December 10, 1942-January 2, 1943. MS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 FO_371_31447_E7239. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, link.gale.com/apps/doc/DWLRDK304539758/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=2bc153ac&pg=1. Accessed 22 Feb. 2022.

94

E

1942

SAUDI ARABIA.

E 7341
16 DEC 1942
93

Registry Number E 7341/1/25.

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Bird, Jedda.

No. 367.

Dated 14th Dec; 1942.

Received in Registry 16th Dec; 1942.

E: Saudi Arabia.

M. Maigret: request for permission to fly Fighting French flag. G.J.

Refers to Jedda telegram No.294 (E 5253/1/25). M. Maigret has asked Ibn Saud for permission to fly Fighting French flag. Privileges Maigret enjoys have been accorded as personal courtesy and Ibn Saud is uncertain whether he can properly allow Maigret to fly his flag especially as Ballereau, Vichy Minister, is presumably only French representative accredited to him. Requests views. (Repeated Minstate, Cairo No. 29 Saving).

Last Paper.
E 4239 (E 5253)

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)
Tel to Jedda No. 304 Dec. 18

(Action completed.)
21/12

(Index.)

Next Paper.
E 7348

(Minutes.)

I should not have thought that it was necessary to ask for permission. As far as I remember, there are no regulations in Saudi Arabia about the flying of flags, and presumably any foreigner, whether an official or a private individual, can therefore fly his national flag when he pleases.

Treaty Dept. for obs. 16/12

We are unable to say without investigation whether Mr. Eyres' impression is correct. If it is, the general position in Saudi Arabia is the same as in the U.K., and, as he says, no question of permission should arise. But if there are special regulations in Saudi Arabia it is not easy to advise about the case of M. Maigret without knowing what they say. The anomalies of his position appear to disqualify him from making any appeal to international custom. Perhaps we could get out of the difficulty by saying that in similar circumstances here we should not make any difficulty.

17/12

Send Dft. to Jedda herewith. 17/12

Treaty Dept.
Treaty Dept.

18/12

22910 9/41 T.O.P.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

E

[CYPHER] DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1. 94

FROM JEDDA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Stonehewer-Bird.
No. 367.

D. 11.0 a.m. 15th December, 1942.

R. 7.5 p.m. 15th December, 1942.

14th December, 1942.

Repeated to Minister of State's Office, Cairo telegram No. 29 Saving.

m m m

My telegram No. 294. E 8253/1/25

M. Maigret Fighting France representative has asked Ibn Saud for permission to fly Fighting France flag.

2. Privileges Maigret enjoys have been accorded as personal courtesy and Ibn Saud uncertain whether he can properly allow Maigret to fly his flag especially as Ballereau, Vichy Minister is presumably the only French representative accredited to him.

3. I should be glad of your views.

[Copies sent to Mr. Armstrong.]

(O.T.P.)

DEC 18 1942 F.O. REGISTRY

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. E 7341/1/25.

Draft. Telegram
H.M. Chargé d'Affaires,
Jedda.
No. 307
R. Dec 18
Dept. No. 1.

Treaty Dept.
French Dept.

OUT FILE

2·15 pm

Your Telegram No. 367 [of Dec. 14th: 19/12/42
Fighting French representative's request for permission to fly his flag]

Unless ~~there is~~ M. M[aigret]'s 95
request is contrary to any local
regulations ~~that may be in~~
~~Saudi Arabia~~ concerning the flying
of flags by foreigners, there would
appear to be no objection to it.
We should make no difficulty
in similar circumstances here.

18/12

7 pm

OUTWARD TELEGRAM

OUT FILE

E.7341/1/25.

[Code R] DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

96

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO JEDDA.

No. 307.

D. 2.15 p.m. 19th December, 1942.

18th December, 1942.

- - - -

Your telegram No.367 [of December 14th: Fighting French representative's request for permission to fly his flag].

Unless M. M[aigret]'s request is contrary to any local regulations concerning the flying of flags by foreigners, there would appear to be no objection to it. We should make no difficulty in similar circumstances here.

File Number :—

E 1

EASTERN.

SAUDI ARABIA.

1942

M. Maigret: Request for Permission to Fly Fighting French Flag. December 14-19, 1942. MS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 FO_371_31447_E7341. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, link.gale.com/apps/doc/FBLTDL747599571/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=16e19669&pg=1. Accessed 22 Feb. 2022.

95

E

1942

SAUDI ARABIA.

E 7348

17 DEC 1942

97

Registry Number } E 7348/1/25

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Bird (Jedda)

No. 368

Dated 14th Dec.,

Received in Registry } 17th Dec., 1942.

E : Saudi Arabia.

Position of M. Ballereau.

Refers to Jedda telegram No.360 of 10th December (E 7239/1/25). Ibn Saud has begged Ballereau to be informed that as the Saudi-Arabian Government are aware that Balereau drew a sum of over 2,000 sovereigns from bank in Jedda in June 1940 they consider he cannot be entirely destitute. Ibn Saud regrets therefore that he cannot advance him any money.

(Repeated Minister of State, Cairo, No.30 S).

Last Paper.

E 7349

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

PW 11.

(Index.)

Add 4/43

Next Paper.

E 7444

(Minutes.)

2000 sovereigns is not a vast amount of money on which to run a Legation for 2½ years. M. Ballereau will presumably reply that this sum is now exhausted & will renew his appeal for assistance. I don't think therefore that this telegram need affect the ~~draft~~ substance of the draft on E. 7341.

17/12

A A Cadogan

Dec 17.

WM 17/12

22910 9/41 F.O.P.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

FE

98

[CYPHER]

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

FROM JEDDA TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Stonehewer Bird
No. 368
14th December, 1942.

D. 11. 0 a.m. 15th December, 1942.
R. 7.05 p.m. 15th December, 1942.

Repeated to Minister of State's Office Cairo No. 30 Saving.

JJJJ

My telegram No. 360. E

? caused

Ibn Saud has begged Ballereau to be informed that as the Saudi Arabian Government are aware that Ballereau drew a sum of over 2,000 [grp. undec. ?sovereign]s from bank here in June 1940 they consider he cannot be entirely destitute. Ibn Saud regrets therefore that he cannot advance him any money.

[Copies sent to Mr. Armstrong.]

OTP.

DEC 1942 F.O. REGISTRY

File Number :—

E 1.

EASTERN.

SAUDI ARABIA.

1942

Position of M. Ballereau. 14 Dec. 1942. TS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 FO_371_31447_E7348. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, link.gale.com/apps/doc/ERYXPX778813161/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=1b40a6ce&pg=1. Accessed 22 Feb. 2022.

96

E

1942

SAUDI ARABIA.

E 7449

22 DEC 1942

99

Registry Number } E 7449/1/25.

TELEGRAM FROM
Mr. Bird (Jedda).

No. 371.

Dated 21st Dec. 1942.

Received in Registry } 22nd Dec. 1942.

E: Saudi Arabia.

United States Minister's visit to Ibn Saud.

Ibn Saud has sent message saying that United States Minister is expected on 23rd December and enquiring if His Majesty's Government know whether he has any business to discuss. Has informed Ibn Saud that His Majesty's Government have no knowledge of Mr. Kirk's intentions, but as his arrival will coincide with that of Lord Moyne doubtless the latter would be willing to be consulted.

(Repeated Minister of State, Cairo, No.234).

Last Paper.

E 7348

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Tel to Minister, Cairo No. 3211 Dec. 23
Rep'd Jedda No. 309

(Action completed.)

24/12

(Index.)

90 4/12

Next Paper.

E 158/158/25/1943
E 1529/1529/25/1943
(Arrangements)

(Minutes.)

Ibn Saud is evidently scared of too great an extension of American influence in Saudi Arabia and does not want to have more to do with them than he can help.

We have no knowledge here of the reasons for Mr. Kirk's visit, unless it is to discuss the question of Lend/Lease aid (see E. 6711/6711/25 and subsequent correspondence). But the Minister of State's Office probably knows all about it, & I think we must leave it to them to reply.

Off. tel. to Minister, Cairo herewith.

H.G.Eyres 22/12

WM 23/12

22910 9/41 F.O.P.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

E

[CYPHER] DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1. 100

E 7449
22 DEC 1942

FROM JEDDA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Stonehewer-Bird
No. 371 D. 10.35 a.m. 21st December, 1942.
21st December, 1942. R. 3.40 p.m. 21st December, 1942.

Repeated to Minister of State's Office Cairo No. 234.

ddddddd

IMMEDIATE

Ibn Saud has sent message by Yusuf Yasin saying that United States Minister is expected to arrive here on 23rd December and enquiring if we know whether he is just taking advantage of the King's presence in Hejaz to pay him a friendly visit or whether he has business to discuss. In latter case have we any knowledge of questions likely to be raised and, if so would His Majesty's Government please express an opinion on them so that Ibn Saud may be guided thereby in his interviews with Mr. Kirk.

2. Ibn Saud instructed Yusuf Yasin to add that although his relations with United States are friendly both in themselves and because United States is Britain's ally, and he would therefore extend friendly welcome to Mr. Kirk, yet his relations with United States could never be so close and friendly as with His Majesty's Government with whom he has so many interests in common.

3. I replied that I had no knowledge of Mr. Kirk's intentions but that I would transmit the King's message at once. I thanked Ibn Saud for his friendly remarks and I pointed out that Lord Moyne's visit to Jedda would coincide with Mr. Kirk's and that former would no doubt be able to express an opinion on any subject on which His Majesty might wish to consult him.

4. I gather that Ibn Saud may postpone his reception of United States Minister until 26th December, the eve of Lord Moyne's arrival.

[Copies sent to Mr. Armstrong]

DEC XII 1942
F.O. REGISTRY

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No. E.7449/1/25.

Draft. Telegram
Resident,
Cairo.
No. 3211
Cypher. Dec. 23
EK 22
Sept. No. 1.

Repeat Jedda
No. 309

IMMEDIATE 1.50 p 23/12/25

OUT FILE

Jedda telegram No. 371 to 1DL

[of Dec. 21st: visit of U.S. Minister, Cairo, to Jedda]

I have no knowledge of the reasons for Mr. Kirk's visit but I presume that you will ~~be~~ send to HH Charge d'affaires ~~able to give Mr. Wikeley for~~

The Sand's guidance any information and advice that you think necessary.

[illegible] 23/12

12.30 p

OUT FILE

102

E7449/1/25

[Cypher] DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO MINISTER OF STATE'S OFFICE. CAIRO.

No.3211. D. 1.50 p.m. 23rd December, 1942.
23rd December, 1942.
Repeated to Jedda No.309.
c c c

IMMEDIATE.

Jedda telegram No.371 to me [of December 21st: visit of United States Minister, Cairo, to Jedda].

I have no knowledge of the reasons for Mr. Kirk's visit but I presume that you will send to His Majesty's Charge d'Affaires for Ibn Saud's guidance any information and advice that you think necessary.

[Copies sent to Mr. Armstrong].

File Number :—

E 1

EASTERN.

1942

SAUDI ARABIA.

United States Minister's Visit to Ibn Saud. December 21-23, 1942. MS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 FO_371_31447_E7449. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, link.gale.com/apps/doc/DWMJPR201909985/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=0d2a4bb7&pg=1. Accessed 22 Feb. 2022.

1945

GENERAL

W 1542

SHIPPING

Registry Number W 1542/249/58.	Enemy vessels and aircraft seeking refuge in neutral ports.
FROM Mr. Jordan, Jedda.	Refers to Foreign Office telegram No. 12 of 15th January (W 618/249/58). Transmits copy of Legation note No. 21 of 20th January to the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and of American Legation's note No. 140 of the same date regarding internment and preservation of German vessels and aircraft seeking refuge in neutral ports.
No. 20.	
Dated 20th Jan. 1945.	
Received in Registry 2nd Feb.	
W : Shipping.	

Last Paper.

(W1541)

References.

(*Print.*)

(*How disposed of.*)

For) Mr Law (A.M.)
Mr Wallwork (Cust.)
Mr Keenlyside (M.W.T.)
Fol

(*Minutes.*)

Usual distribution
NJAC
7/2

(Action completed.)	(Index.)
W 15/3	

Next Paper.

(W1662)

W_1542

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS PAGE.

No. 20
180/1783/3)

HIS Majesty's Minister at Jedda

presents his compliments to H.M. Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned documents.

British Legation,

Jedda.

January 20, 1945

Reference to previous correspondence:

Foreign Office telegram No. 12 of January 15, 1945

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
1. Copy of Legation Note No. 21 of Jan. 20, 1945 to the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.	Internment & preservation of German vessels and aircraft seeking refuge in neutral countries.
2. Copy of the American Legation's note No. 146 of Jan. 20, 1945 to the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.	

BRITISH LEGATION JEDDA

3479 15099 (4)

2C

56

No. 21

(180/1783/3)

His Majesty's Legation at Jedda present their compliments to the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and have the honour to inform them that the United Nations will be entitled to decide upon the ultimate disposal of all enemy vessels and aircraft that may reach the territory of countries which have not declared war on the Axis nations.

His Majesty's Government trust that the Saudi Arabian Government will recognise their special responsibility to intern fully all ships and aircraft, including merchant ships and civil aircraft, and thoroughly to preserve them intact pending their ultimate disposal.

His Majesty's Legation take this opportunity of renewing to the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Foreign Affairs the assurance of their high consideration.

British Legation,

Jedda.

January 20, 1945.

2C

57

COPY.

Legation of the United States
of America.

Jidda, Saudi Arabia,
January 20, 1945.

The Legation of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and has the honor to transmit the following message on behalf of the United States Government :

> It is possible that, prior to termination of hostilities, German vessels and aircraft may seek refuge in neutral ports to avoid capture. In the event that this should occur in Saudi Arabia, the Government of the United States has no doubt that the Saudi Arabian Government will recognize its special responsibility, not only to intern such ships and aircraft, but to preserve them intact pending their ultimate disposition.

The Legation takes this opportunity to express to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs the renewed assurance of its high consideration.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs

of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,

Jidda.

File Number :—

W 249

GENERAL.

SHIPPING

1945

Enemy Vessels and Aircraft Seeking Refuge in Neutral Ports. 20 Jan. 1945. TS Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 FO_371_50461_W1542. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II, link.gale.com/apps/doc/CJYCGD585944496/RRRW?u=webdemo&sid=bookmark-RRRW&xid=848a7110&pg=5. Accessed 22 Feb. 2022.